

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 6, 22, 24, 26, 27, 35, and 36 are currently pending. Claims 1, 22 and 24 are the pending independent claims. In the Office Action, Claims 1 – 6, 22, 24, 26, 27, 35, and 36 were rejected under Section 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to satisfy the written description requirement.

All rejections are respectfully traversed. Favorable reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

The Examiner contends that Claims 1 – 6, 22, 24, 26, 27, 35, and 36 include new matter and therefore fail to satisfy the written description requirement.

With respect to Claim 1, the Examiner objects to the work “aqueous” in step (iii) of the method. In response, this instance of the word “aqueous” has been deleted from Claim 1. Accordingly, it is believed that Claim 1 and its dependent claims are now allowable.

In addition, the Examiner raised a series of written description objections to Claims 22 and 24. However, the Applicants have herein cancelled Claims 22 and 24, and their dependent Claims 26 and 27, thereby mooting these rejections.

In so doing, the Applicants do not concede that the subject matter of Claims 22 and 24 include lack appropriate support under the written description requirement. Rather the Applicants have chosen to limit this case solely to Claim 1 and its dependent claims, while reserving the right to continue prosecuting the subject matter of Claims 22 and 24 in one or more continuation applications.

In view of these amendments, it is submitted that any alleged written description issues have been overcome, and that all rejections under Section 112 should therefore be withdrawn. Accordingly, Applicants urge the Examiner to reconsider the application, to withdraw the rejections, and to issue a notice of allowance at the earliest possible convenience.

U.S. Application No. 10/598,816

In the event this response is not timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for the appropriate extension of time and request that the fee for the extension along with any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper be charged to our **Deposit Account No. 12-2355**.

Respectfully submitted,
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